

Friday, August 21, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sen. Kirk Watson issued the following statement regarding unlicensed assisted living facilities:

The recent discovery of several unlicensed assisted living facilities in Central Texas is heartbreaking. I've been assured that state and local authorities are conducting a thorough investigation into the people who have left these elderly and disabled residents to live in utterly horrible conditions.

It also shows the state can — and should — be doing more to ensure Texans have access to safe, affordable assisted living. It's quite likely the residents ended up in these facilities because they had nowhere else to go. I'll be asking Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick to allow senators to examine this issue during the interim because Texas has a responsibility to protect the most vulnerable among us.